

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 20 were pending in the application. Claims 4, 7 - 9, 14, 17, 19, and 20 have been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to an invention non-elected with traverse by Applicant. Claim 10 has been amended. Claims 1 - 3, 5, 6, 10 - 13, 15, 16, and 18 are presented for reexamination and reconsideration.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Restriction Requirement was made final, claim 10 was objected to because of informalities, claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,886,762 to Lee et al., claims 1 - 3, 5, 6, 11 - 13, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,914,645 to Kurahashi et al., and claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Kurahashi et al. as applied to claims 1 - 3, 5, 6, 11 - 13, 15, and 16 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,184,946 to Ando et al.

Claim 10 has been amended by deleting "said space" and changing "at least one first said contact hole" to --at least one said first contact hole--.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments introduce no new matter within the meaning of 37 U.S.C. § 132.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 10 because of informalities.

Response

In response, claim 10 has been amended to delete "said space" from the claim. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

Specification

The Examiner made a requirement for a new title.

Response

In response the title has been amended to: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY PANEL HAVING INTER-DIGITAL ELECTRODES. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the new title.

Claims Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claim 10 as being anticipated by Lee et al.

Response

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

For a reference to anticipate an invention, all of the elements of that invention must be present in the reference. The test for anticipation under section 102 is whether each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987);

MPEP §2131. The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); MPEP §2131.

In amended claim 10 of the present application, the first contact hole of the inter-digital pixel electrodes and the second contact hole of the inter-digital counter electrodes are on the same side of the pixel region. In such an arrangement, the common lines are positioned near the edge of the pixel region without passing through or dividing an area of the pixel region into which the light penetrates. Therefore, it could increase an aperture ratio and the brightness of the LCD panel of the application.

In contrast, in Lee et al., referring to Fig. 4, the common lines 2B-1 are positioned on an opposite side of the pixel region and without being adjacent to the gate lines or the data lines. Accordingly, the contact hole C of the counter electrodes 6 and the contact hole C1 of the pixel electrodes are NOT on the same side of the pixel region. It is apparent that the configuration of the common lines 2B-1 of Lee et al. are different from the configuration of the common lines of the present application. Hence, the claimed invention defined in claim 10 possesses unexpected results over Lee et al.

Therefore, according to above-mentioned remarks, Lee et al. fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the structure of the Liquid Crystal Display Panel of amended claim 10 of the present application. Accordingly, claim 10 of the claimed invention meets the requirement of novelty.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1 - 3, 5, 6, 11 - 13, 15, and 16 as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Kurahashi et al., and rejected claim 9 as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Kurahashi et al. as applied to claims 1 - 3, 5, 6, 11 - 13, 15, and 16 above, and further in view of Ando et al.

Response

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the Examiner must establish: (1) that some suggestion or motivation to modify the references exists; (2) a reasonable expectation of success; and (3) that the prior art references teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *Amgen, Inc. v. Chugai Pharm. Co.*, 18 USPQ2d 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1991); *In re Fine*, 5 USPQ2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In re Wilson*, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970).

Applicant emphasizes that the common lines 2B-1 of Lee et al. are positioned on an opposite side of the pixel region and without being adjacent to the gate lines or the data lines, and therefore the contact hole C of the counter electrodes 6 and the contact hole C1 of the pixel electrodes are NOT on the same side of the pixel region. It is apparent that the configuration of the common lines 2B-1 of Lee et al. are totally different from the configuration of the common lines of the application. In other words, Lee et al. fails to disclose the above-mentioned technical features of claim 1 and

amended claim 10 of the present application. Therefore, the purpose, effects and configuration of the independent claims 1 and 10 are totally different from Lee et al.

Actually, Lee et al. does not disclose or teach the technical feature of above-mentioned "wherein a pixel region is defined by one of said data lines and one of said gate lines, at least one said first contact hole and at least one said second contact hole are on the same side of said pixel region." In addition, under careful review of Kurahashi et al., Applicant asserts that Kurahashi et al. also fails to disclose or teach the technical feature of above-mentioned "wherein a pixel region is defined by one of said data lines and one of said gate lines, at least one said first contact hole and at least one said second contact hole are on the same side of said pixel region." Hence, the claimed invention defined in claim 1 and amended claim 10 cannot be expected by the prior art of Lee et al. and Kurahashi et al.

More importantly, there is no any motivation or suggestion indicated that combining Lee et al. with Kurahashi et al. may disclose and reach the structure of the Liquid Crystal Display Panel and technical features of claim 1 and amended claim 10 of the present invention. Therefore, Lee et al. and Kurahashi et al. fail to reach such significant features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claim 1 and the amended claim 10 are non-obvious and patentable in view of the citations, since "absence of property which a claimed invention would have been expected to possess based on the teachings of the prior art is evidence of unobviousness." *Ex parte Mead Johnson & Co.* 227 USPQ 78 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985).

Moreover, claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 11-13, 15, 16, 18 are dependent claims of claims 1 and 10, respectively. Accordingly, since dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 11-13, 15, 16, 18 are dependent on one of independent claims 1 and 10, these claims also overcome the obviousness rejection.

Further, Ando et al. fails to cure the deficiencies of the other two references regarding dependent claim 9.

Therefore, according to above-mentioned remarks, the combination of references fails to teach or suggest each all the claim limitations of the structure of Liquid Crystal Display Panel of claim 1 of the present application. Accordingly, claim 1 of the claimed invention meets the requirement of nonobviousness.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.


In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,

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